

schools in the State of Indiana. It has been named an Indiana Four Star School multiple times.

In 2014, Memorial Elementary School's ISTEP+ pass rate for English/Language Arts scores increased by nearly 2 percent to 96.7 percent. Mathematics scores increased to 98 percent combined for third through fifth grades.

Memorial Elementary School's effectiveness can be found in its holistic approach and dedication to student achievement. Memorial staff, students, and students' families work together to teach and instill values that develop strong character and HEART: honesty, effort, attitude, respect, and teamwork. With some of the highest English and mathematics scores in Indiana, Memorial Elementary School is a stellar example of the benefits that result from dedication, motivation, collaboration, and family partnership in education.

I would like to recognize Memorial Elementary School principal, Debra Misecko, the entire staff, the student body, and their families. The effort, dedication, and value you put into education led not only to this prestigious recognition, but will benefit you and our communities well into the future.

On behalf of the citizens of Indiana, I congratulate Memorial Elementary School, and I wish the students and staff continued success in the future.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO DR. EUGENE MCKAY

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I wish to honor today Chancellor Eugene McKay of Arkansas State University-Beebe. Chancellor McKay will be retiring at the end of December after nearly half a century of dedication to education, the university, and the State of Arkansas.

Chancellor McKay has been a fixture at ASU-Beebe since 1966. He started as a professor of English and French, became vice chancellor of academic affairs and, in 1994, was named chancellor.

During his time with ASU-Beebe, Chancellor McKay oversaw an extensive campus renovation and expansion. Under his leadership, enrollment nearly tripled, and the ASU-Beebe campus had the highest student success rate of any Arkansas institution of higher education.

His passion helped improve higher education across Arkansas. In 1999, he founded ASU-Heber Springs, and he worked with ASU-Newport to become a stand-alone institution in 2001.

Chancellor McKay's dedication to his community extended beyond the campus. In addition to serving on the Arkansas Community College Board, he also served with the Beebe Chamber of Commerce, the Beebe Economic Development Commission, and United Way of White County, to name a few.

Retirement won't slow him down. Chancellor McKay plans to continue to challenge himself by taking yoga and mathematics classes.

I congratulate Chancellor McKay for his outstanding achievements in education and thank him for his service to ASU-Beebe and the countless students he impacted. I was proud to support his efforts to foster growth at the university and help make his vision for a campus emergency alert system a reality. I greatly appreciate his commitment to the university and higher education and wish him continued success in all of his endeavors. ASU-Beebe has benefited greatly from his leadership and dedication.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 8. An act to modernize energy infrastructure, build a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce, bolster America's energy security and diplomacy, and promote energy efficiency and government accountability, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 8. An act to modernize energy infrastructure, build a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce, bolster America's energy security and diplomacy, and promote energy efficiency and government accountability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2359. A bill to restore Second Amendment rights in the District of Columbia.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2109. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to develop an integrated plan to reduce administrative costs under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-173).

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MCCAIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

\* Alissa M. Starzak, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army.

\* John Conger, of Maryland, to be a Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

\* Stephen P. Welby, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

\* Franklin R. Parker, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Marine Corps nomination of Lt. Gen. John E. Wissler, to be Lieutenant General.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Clinton F. Faison III, to be Vice Admiral.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Nadja Y. West, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Col. Edward E. Hildreth III, to be Brigadier General.

Army nominations beginning with Colonel Jennifer G. Buckner and ending with Colonel Patrick B. Roberson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 16, 2015.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Blake A. Gettys and ending with Col. Karen E. Mansfield, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 19, 2015.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Todd M. Branden and ending with Col. Fermin A. Rubio, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 19, 2015.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. David M. Bakos and ending with Col. Gregory S. Woodrow, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 19, 2015. (minus 1 nominee: Col. Clifford N. James)

Air Force nomination of Brig. Gen. Edward P. Maxwell, to be Major General.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Robert C. Bolton and ending with Brig. Gen. Wayne A. Zimmet, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 19, 2015.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. John D. Bansemer, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Russell A. Muncy, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Patricia N. Beyer, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Christopher W. Lentz, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Lee Ann T. Bennett and ending with Col. Tracey A. Siems, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 19, 2015.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. John C. Thomson III, to be Major General.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Sylvia R. Crockett, to be Major General.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Kenneth T. Bibb, Jr. and ending with Col. Michael P. Winkler, which nominations were